

Approved For Release 2001/03/02 : CIA-RDP70-00058R

# JOHN A. McCONE, EX-AEC HEAD, TO DIRECT CIA

## He Will Replace Dulles in November

BY LAURENCE BURD

(Chicago Tribune Press Service)

Newport, R. I., Sept. 27—President Kennedy today chose John A. McCONE, west coast Republican industrial engineer, to replace Allen W. Dulles as director of the central intelligence agency.

McCONE will take over the CIA post in November.

McCONE, 59, chairman of the Atomic Energy commission under President Eisenhower, will take over the reins of the CIA with its wide ranging super-secret operations in November.

Both McCONE and Dulles were flown from Washington this morning to the President's Narragansett bay vacation retreat, Hammersmith farm, where the three conferred for an hour before Kennedy announced the change-over to reporters.

### Served Under Truman

Dulles, 68, brother of the late John Foster Dulles, headed the

McCONE, a native of San Francisco, began his career as a steel company engineer. In 1947 he formed his own engineering company and operated the Bechtel-McCONE aircraft modification center in Birmingham, Ala. He is also board chairman of the Joshua Hendy corporation, a shipping company.

Under President Truman, McCONE served as a special assistant in the Pentagon and air force undersecretary.

### AEC Head for Ike

In July, 1958, President Eisenhower tapped McCONE to head the AEC. He resigned from AEC last January when President Kennedy took office.

As AEC chief, McCONE warned that the United States could not in its own security interests continue indefinitely the voluntary ban, begun in 1958, on nuclear weapon testing, while Russia refused to agree to inspection to prevent cheating.

Russia broke the test moratorium early this month with a series of fallout yielding blasts and President Kennedy then ordered American tests resumed, but underground to bar contaminating fallout.

### Go to Naval War College

McCONE conferred with the President at the White House shortly after Russia's test resumption. At that meeting the President, in addition to asking McCONE's advice on nuclear policy, sounded him out on

taking the \$31,000 a year CIA directorship.

The President brought both McCONE and Dulles with him this noon to the naval war college auditorium, where he announced the changeover to reporters and several hundred navy officers attending the college.

The President praised Dulles as unmatched for "courageous, selfless" public service. He thanked McCONE for agreeing to

serve at a "real sacrifice" of other pursuits.

Dulles's intelligence work began in World War II. He was a leading American intelligence official operating in Switzerland. He is a member of a New York law firm.

The CIA, which is so secret it does not even submit a budget to Congress, has been a controversial agency since it was set up in 1950. Its activities are believed to cost taxpayers more than half a billion dollars a year.

### Agency Often Criticized

The agency has often been criticized for ineffective work and bad judgment. Under Dulles, it was condemned for its part in the Cuban invasion fiasco last April and in the U-2 spy plane flights over Russia in 1960.

Kennedy in a letter to Vice President Johnson asked him to confer in Paris late this week with high American officials and bring home a report on discussions there with "our major European allies." Johnson is to make the Paris stop enroute home from the funeral in Stockholm of Dag Hammarskjold, United Nations secretary general killed last week in an air crash in Africa.

Adlai Stevenson, ambassador to the U. N., will accompany

Johnson to Stockholm and Paris.

### Go Yachting Again

The President and Mrs. Kennedy, who flew to Newport yesterday for a week's vacation, went cruising with their two youngsters this balmy afternoon aboard the 82 foot cabin cruiser "Honey Fitz" named for the President's grandfather. President Eisenhower used the same government-owned craft on vacations at Newport, but called it the

"Barbara Anne" after his oldest granddaughter.

The President was awakened by telephone calls at 2:30 a. m. from Rep. Carl Albert (D., Okla.), House majority whip, and 6:12 a. m. from Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield (D., Mont.).

They gave him formal word the House and Senate were ready to adjourn for the year. Kennedy's reply: "Thanks."



John A. McCONE

CIA thruout the Eisenhower administration and was asked to stay in the post last fall by President-elect Kennedy.

Kennedy said in an announcement Dulles had agreed to stay for only one year and that the outgoing CIA chief was well satisfied with McCONE as successor.

Approved For Release 2001/03/02 : CIA-RDP70-00058R000200120072-7